

f) regulating the level by acting on said adjustable feet of said boxes.

BZ
mild
12. (Amended) A process according to claim 11, comprising the following supplementary operation:

g) fixing said modules] on said upper surfaced portions of said boxes].

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 remain in the application. Claims 1-12 have been amended. It is respectfully requested that the foregoing preliminary amendment be entered prior to examination.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

As originally added by amendment dated November 28, 2001:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims priority of French Patent Application No. 0015516, filed on November 30, 2000, ~~the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herewith~~.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An installation for the circulation of part-carrying pallets~~[-(12)]~~, comprising a support frame~~[-(12)]~~ for supporting modules~~[-(14)]~~ for circulation of the pallets, ~~[characterised in that the]~~ in which said support frame~~[-(10)]~~ comprises at least one vertical frame arrangement~~[(16)]~~ formed by a rigid mecano-welded structure from standard profile members~~[-(20, 22, 24, 26)]~~, as well as boxes~~[-(18)]~~ each formed by a mecano-welded structure from standard profile members~~[(42, 46, 48)]~~ and capable of being removably fixed on respective sides of~~[the]~~ said vertical frame arrangement~~[(16)]~~, and~~[that]~~ each of~~[the]~~ said boxes~~[-(18)]~~ comprises an upper surfaced portion~~[(44)]~~ capable of receiving at least one module [(14)] and a lower portion~~[-(40)]~~ provided with adjustable feet~~[-(50)]~~ for adjusting the horizontality of~~[the]~~ said upper surfaced portion.
2. (Amended) An installation ~~[as set forth in]~~ according to claim 1 ~~[characterised in that the]~~, wherein said standard profile members~~[-(20, 22, 24, 26)]~~ of~~[the]~~ said vertical frame arrangement~~[(16)]~~ and~~[the]~~ said standard profile members~~[-(42, 46, 48)]~~ of~~[the]~~ said boxes [(18)] are commercially available profile members of steel of type NIP.
3. (Amended) An installation ~~[as set forth in]~~ according to claim 1 ~~[characterised in that the]~~, wherein said vertical frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ comprises a lower horizontal profile member~~[(20)]~~, an upper horizontal profile member~~[-(22)]~~, an intermediate horizontal profile member~~[-(24)]~~ and two vertical profile members~~[-(26)]~~ connected to the respective ends of~~[the]~~ said horizontal profile members~~[-(20, 22, 24)]~~.

4. (Amended) An installation~~[-as set forth in claim 2 characterised in that the]~~ according to claim 2, wherein said lower horizontal profile member~~[-(20)]~~ extends substantially at the level of the lower portion~~[-(40)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said boxes without however resting on the ground,~~[-that the]~~ and wherein said intermediate horizontal profile member~~[-(24)]~~ extends substantially at the level of the upper surfaced portion~~[-(44)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said boxes, and~~[-that the]~~ wherein said upper profile member~~[-(22)]~~ extends at a spacing with respect to the level of~~[-the]~~ said upper surfaced portion~~[-(44)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said boxes.
5. (Amended) An installation~~[-as set forth in one of claims 3 and 4 characterised in that the]~~ according to claim 1, wherein said vertical frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ is provided on each side with six fixing plates~~[-(28, 28, 30, 30, 32, 32)]~~ which comprise four box fixing plates~~[-(28, 28, 30, 30)]~~ capable of being removably fixed to four homologous fixing plates~~[-(54)]~~ forming part of a box~~[-(18)]~~ and two frame arrangement fixing plates~~[-(32)]~~ capable of being removably fixed on an adjacent vertical frame arrangement.
6. (Amended) An installation~~[-as set forth in]~~ according to claim 5~~[-characterised in that the]~~, wherein said six fixing plates~~[-(28, 28, 30, 30, 32, 32)]~~ disposed on one side of~~[-the]~~ said frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ extend horizontally and comprise two lower plates~~[-(28)]~~ fixed at the level of~~[-the]~~ said lower profile member~~[-(20)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said frame arrangement, two intermediate plates~~[-(30)]~~ fixed at the level of~~[-the]~~ said intermediate profile member~~[-(24)]~~ and two upper plates~~[-(32)]~~ fixed at the level of~~[-the]~~ said upper profile member~~[-(22)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said frame arrangement.
7. (Amended) An installation~~[-as set forth in one of claims 5 and 6 characterised in that the]~~ according to claim 6, wherein said six fixing plates~~[-(28, 28, 30, 30, 32, 32)]~~ are co-planar and welded to~~[-the]~~ said vertical frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ and comprise three plates~~[-(28, 30, 32)]~~ which extend beyond one of~~[-the]~~ said two vertical profile members~~[-(26)]~~ and three plates ~~[-(28, 30, 32)]~~ which extend beyond~~[-the]~~ said other vertical profile member~~[-(26)]~~.
8. (Amended) An installation~~[-as set forth in one of claims 5 through 7 characterised in that the]~~ according to claim 5, wherein said box fixing plates~~[-(28, 28, 30, 30)]~~ forming part of~~[-the]~~ said frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ are capable of being fixed respectively against~~[-the]~~ said four

homologous plates~~[-(54)]~~ of a box by way of fixing means of the screw type and with the interposition of spacer plates~~[-(57)]~~.

9. (Amended) An installation~~[as set forth in one of claims 5 through 8 characterised in that the]~~ according to claim 5, wherein said fixing plates~~[-(54)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said box~~[-(18)]~~ are co-planar and welded to~~[-the]~~ said box.

10. (Amended) An installation~~[as set forth in one of claims 1 through 9 characterised in that the]~~ according to claim 1, wherein said box~~[-(18)]~~ comprises four profile members~~[-(42)]~~ forming~~[-the]~~ said lower portion~~[-(40)]~~ and supporting~~[-the]~~ said adjustable feet~~[-(50)]~~, four profile members~~[-(46)]~~ forming~~[-the]~~ said upper surfaced portion~~[-(44)]~~ and four vertical profile members~~[-(48)]~~ connecting~~[-the]~~ said lower portion~~[-(40)]~~ and~~[-the]~~ said upper surfaced portion~~[-(44)]~~.

11. (Amended) A process for assembling an installation~~[as set forth in one of the preceding claims]~~ according to claim 1, comprising the following operations:

- a) assembling~~[-the]~~ said frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ on the ground;
- b) placing~~[-the]~~ said frame arrangement vertically and holding it vertically;
- c) presenting~~[-the]~~ said boxes~~[-(18)]~~ on respective sides of~~[-the]~~ said vertical frame arrangement~~[-(16)]~~ and fixing them thereto;
- d) repeating if necessary foregoing operations a) through c) for other frame arrangements and boxes to form~~[-the]~~ said support frame~~[-(10)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said installation;
- e) assembling items of equipment or accessories~~[-(60, 62)]~~ to~~[-the]~~ said support frame formed in that way; and
- f) regulating the level by acting on~~[-the]~~ said adjustable feet~~[-(50)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said boxes~~[-(18)]~~.

12. (Amended) A process~~[as set forth in]~~ according to claim 11~~[-characterised in that it comprises]~~, comprising the following supplementary operation:

- g) fixing~~[-the]~~ said modules~~[-(14)]~~ on~~[-the]~~ said upper surfaced portions~~[-(44)]~~ of~~[-the]~~ said boxes~~[-(18)]~~.